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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO
AGAM-P (M) (25 Apr 68) FOR OT RD 681261

30 April 1968

AD390024

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st
Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, Period Ending 31 January
1968 (U)**

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2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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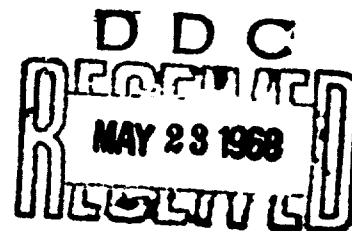
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BRIGADE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96347

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12 February 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968
(RCS CSPOR-65)(U)

TO: See Distribution

References: AR 1-19 dtd 26 May 1966; USARV Reg 1-19 dtd 8 Feb 1967;
and IFFV Reg 1-3 dtd 29 Sep 1966.

SECTION I (C)

A. SIGNIFICANT UNIT ACTIVITIES: Elements of the brigade were involved in combat operations during the entire reporting period with the exceptions of 25-30 November 1967 and 8-15 January 1968. Training was conducted concurrently with combat operations and during periods when units were refitting and preparing for future operations.

B. COMBAT OPERATIONS: A summary of the concept and execution of each of the brigades operations is given below:

1. Operation WHEELER

a. Dates: 11 September - 25 November 1967.

b. Mission: To conduct search and destroy operations northwest of TAN KY (BT0627) find, fix and destroy VC/NVA forces and to neutralize VC/NVA base camps.

c. Location: QUANG TIN Province, RVN

d. Commander: BG S.H. Matheson

e. Forces involved:

(1) US: 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, Americal Division (OPCON during period 11-24 Sep 67); 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, Americal Division (OPCON during period 4 Oct - 5 Nov 67).

(2) Other: CIDG company from TIEN PHUOC Special Forces Camp; one Mobile Strike Force from Company C, 5th Special Forces Group (DA NANG); one Reconnaissance Company from 2d Division (ARVN).

(3) Enemy forces: 40th and 60th Battalions, 1st VC Regiment; 11th, 22d and 33d Battalions, 21st VC Regiment; 21st NVA Regiment.

f. Concept of Operations: Operation WHEELER commenced with the employment of five battalions by the Americal Division to destroy enemy base camps, fortifications, and forces operating west of TAN KY (BT0627) and along Route QL1 between TAN KY and Hill 63 (BT1345). As Operation WHEELER progressed through Phase I through III (Quarterly Operations Report for period end 31 October 1967) intelligence reports indicated that the larger elements, mainly Headquarters, 2d NVA Division, were located to the west of the brigade's area of operation. To initiate Phase IV of Operation WHEELER (6-25 November 1967) the brigade developed a concept of operation designed to block enemy routes of egress in all directions and to close in on the encircled enemy.

g. Execution: Commencing 6 November 1967 the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry air assaulted into the western portion of the brigade area of operation and established blocking positions along the routes of egress to the

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east. The 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry remained in its area of operation and reoriented to the north to block routes of egress to the southeast. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry displaced to the tactical command post of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry and conducted search and destroy operations to the west and blocked routes of egress to the east. On 16 November 1967, the Americal Division directed the brigade to reorient two companies to the eastern portion of the area of operation to conduct search and destroy operations and to block enemy routes of movement to the south. (Companies B and C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry were displaced into the assigned area). From 23-25 November 1967 the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry were relieved in place by elements of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. Units displaced to TAM KI Airfield (BT0627) and moved by US Air Force C-130 aircraft to the Brigade Base Camp at PHU N RANG for a four day stand down and prepared for future operations in the II Corps Tactical Zone as directed by MACV.

2. Operation ROSE

a. Dates: 11-30 November 1967.

b. Mission: To conduct search and destroy operations to find, fix and destroy VC/NVA forces, to neutralize their base camps, to provide security for engineer work parties along Highway QL 1.

c. Location: TINH MINH THUAN and TINH BINH THUAN Provinces, RVN

d. Commander: LTC John P. Guraci

e. Forces involved:

(1) US: 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry

(2) Other: Provincial Reconnaissance Unit (PRU) team from MINH THUAN Province; 3d Battalion, 45th Regiment (ARVN).

(3) Enemy: C/270 LF Company, 112th LF Company.

f. Concept of Operation: 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry conducted airborne assaults with three companies, using multiple LZ's in the central portion of Secret Base 35 and conducted search and destroy operations in zone (Operation ROSE was, in addition to its primary purpose of conducting search and destroy operations, a shakedown for the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry, recently arrived from the US).

g. Execution: Commencing 11 November 1967 the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry conducted airborne assaults utilizing six LZ's. Elements of the battalion conducted search and destroy operations within their assigned sectors utilizing various tactics and techniques (ie. clover leaf patrols, hammer and anvil, coordinated ARVN and US operation etc.) Operation ROSE terminated 30 November 1967.

3. Operation KIAM TH FALLS

a. Dates: 1 December 1967 - 8 January 1968

b. Mission: To conduct search and destroy operations in LAM DONG and BINH THUAN Provinces, to find, fix and destroy the Headquarters of MR-6, the 145th, 186th, 482d and 840th MF Battalions and to open Highway QL 1 from PHU N RANG to the II/III CTZ boundary in coordination with the 23d Division (ARVN).

c. Location: LAM DONG and BINH THUAN Province, RVN.

d. Commander: BG S.H. Matheson

e. Forces involved:

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(1) US: 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 7th Cavalry; 1st and 2d Platoons, Company E, 20th Infantry (I FFOUR V IRRP).

(2) Other: 2d, 3d and 4th Battalions, 44th Regiment (ARVN), 11th Ranger Battalion (ARVN); BINH THUAN and NINH THUAN Province forces; one National Police Field Force Company.

(3) Enemy: 186th MF Battalion; 482d VC MF Battalion.

f. Concept of Operation: The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division conducted airmobile operation with four airborne battalions and TF 2-17 Caw to locate and destroy Hq MR-6 and enemy forces in southern LAM DONG and BINH THUAN Provinces, and, in coordination with 23d ARVN Division, opened Highway QL 1 from PHAN RANG to II/III CTZ boundary to permit transit of ARVN convoys over QL 1 by 1 January 1968.

g. Execution: To accomplish the assigned mission the brigade on 30 November 1967, using a cover and deception plan, air assaulted the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry from its field position southwest of PHAN RANG (BN8583) to an area of operation vicinity of SONG MAO, while the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry moved by Air Force aircraft to a staging area at BAO LOC (ZT0978), RVN. On 1 December 1967 the two battalions staging at BAO LOC (ZT0978) conducted airmobile assaults into the northwestern and northeastern portions of the brigade area of operation as the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry moved by Air Force aircraft to PHAN THIEP (AN8309), RVN. On 2 December 1967 the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry air assaulted into the southern portion of the brigade area of operation. On 12 December 1967 the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry air assaulted from an area of operation, vicinity SONG MAO (BN2845), into the northern portion of the brigade area of operation, and, on 28 December 1967 into an area of operation east of DI LINH (AN8282). On 4 January 1968 the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry was extracted from the area of operation to BAO LOC (ZT0978). On 7 January 1968, the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry was extracted to BAO LOC (ZT0978) and the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry was extracted to PHAN THIEP (AN8309). Operation KHAMTH FALLS terminated on 8 January 1968 with the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry displacing to pick up point and subsequently moving by convoy to PHAN RANG (BN8503) on 9 January 1968.

4. Operation SAN ANGELO

a. Dates: 16 January 1968 - continuing at close of reporting period.

b. Mission: To conduct search and destroy operations, to find, fix and destroy VC/NVA forces, and to establish blocking positions along the CAMBODIAN border during the TET truce period.

c. Location: QUAN DO DUC and QUAN PHUOC DINH Provinces, RVN.

d. Commander: BG S.H. Matheson (16-23 Jan 68); Col J.W. Collins III (23 Jan - to present).

e. Forces involved:

(1) US: 1st Brigade (-), 101st Airborne Division

(2) Other: 31st Ranger Battalion (ARVN), 2d Battalion, 9th Regiment (ARVN).

(3) Enemy: Unknown at close of reporting period.

f. Concept of Operation: Elements of the 1st Brigade, staging from SONG BE (YU1407), conducted operations beginning 16 January 1968 in three phases as follows:

(1) Phase I: Two battalions air assault into assigned area of operations on D-Day with one battalion air assaulting into its assigned area of operation on D+1.

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(2) Phase II: One battalion continues search and destroy operations in assigned area of operation as one battalion displaces its firebase on D-3 to within supporting distance of DU GIA MAP (YU3437) and establishes blocking positions vicinity of DU CHIER PHUOC (YU1924) during TET truce period, while a third battalion air assaults to vicinity DU GIA MAP (YU3437) to secure airfield and establish blocking positions during TET truce period; brigade prepares to upgrade DU GIA MAP Airfield (YU3437) to accept C-130 traffic.

(3) Phase III: On order, deploy one Battalion Task Force to operate in the DU HUANG (YU5956) area.

g. Execution: The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division commenced Operation SAN ANGELO on 16 January, air assaulting the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry into the northwestern portion of the brigade area of operation and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry air assaulting into the southwestern portion. The following day the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (minus one company) air assaulted into the southeastern portion of the brigade area of operation. On 22 January 1968 the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry was extracted from its assigned area of operation to the SONG BE Base Camp (YU1407) to prepare for the airmobile assault on DU GIA MAP (YU3437). The movement of the supporting firebase was delayed until 23 January due to nonavailability of aircraft. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry established the firebase in the vicinity YU248300 on 31 January. The air assault on DU GIA MAP (YU3437) was postponed on a daily basis until 31 January 1968, when the CG, 101st Airborne Division postponed the operation for an indefinite period. As the TET truce period approached the brigade received a directive from higher headquarters to form battalion size firebases and to reinforce the SONG BE Airfield (YU1407). At the close of the reporting period the maneuver battalions of the brigade were situated as follows:

- (1) 1-327, battalion size firebase vicinity YU261166
- (YU1924) (2) 2-327, battalion size firebase vicinity (DU CHIER PHUOC)
- (YU1407) (3) 2-502, reinforcing the SONG BE perimeter, SONG BE Airfield
- (4) 3-506, located at PHAN THIET, RVN (AN8309) OPCON to I FFORCE V.

C. TACTICS AND TECHNIQUES

1. During the reporting period the brigade deployed its maneuver battalions by assigning them relatively large areas of operation. The maneuver battalions would conduct airmobile assaults on multiple landing zones within their assigned areas of operation, with the size of the elements conducting the airmobile assaults varying from platoon to company depending upon the enemy situation. Each sub-unit, once on the ground, operated semi-independently, but controlled by company and/or battalion. Units carried three to five days rations and required resupply by helicopter every three to five days. This system provided a certain amount of security and allowed the brigade elements to operate in a semi-guerrilla role until contact was made with the enemy and the helicopters did not disclose the tactical units locations. In addition, the brigade maintained the flexibility of supporting and/or reinforcing units by cross attaching and extracting and inserting units within supporting distances.

2. Toward the close of the reporting period (Operation SAN ANGELO), the brigade, being OPCON to the 101st Airborne Division (-) and not having the necessary airlift capability to maneuver as described in para (1) above, changed its methods of operation to the establishment of battalion size firebases and the conducting of search and destroy operations from these bases.

D. TRAINING

Most of this period was spent in the conduct of combat operations. During periods of refitting and preparations for future operations, training was oriented

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towards improving weaknesses noted during previous operations. In addition the following training was conducted:

(1) All incoming personnel continued to be processed through the Brigade Replacement Company, PHAN RANG, where they received six days of land navigation, patrolling, enemy mines and booby traps, enemy sniper techniques, first aid and physical conditioning. This training period also served to acclimatize personnel to the climate of Vietnam.

(2) During the reporting period the Brigade Combat Leaders Course was reopened. Junior leaders, four per maneuver battalion, one from the cavalry troop, engineer company, and EAC, 1st Bde, were sent to the brigade base at PHAN RANG each week to undergo refresher training in land navigation, rappelling, stream crossing techniques, ambush techniques, scouting and patrolling, and small unit tactics.

(3) At PHAN RANG Base (25-30 Nov 67) and DAO LOC Base (7-12 Jan 68), live fire ranges were established in order that brigade combat units could conduct live fire training during refitting periods.

E. OPLANS-OPORDS: The following OPLANS and OPORDS were published during the reporting period. The brigade was not called upon to execute any contingency plans.

1. OPORD 35-67 (ROSE) (U) dated 310900H October 1967 covered the deployment of the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry into an area of operation southwest of PHAN RANG (BN8583). Weather had no significant effect on the carrying out of this plan.

2. OPORD 36-67 (ELAMUTH FALLS) (U) dated 291200H November 1967 covered the deployment of the 1st Brigade, reinforced, 101st Airborne Division from I Corps to II Corps for search and destroy operations against Hq MB-6. Weather had no significant effect on carrying out this plan.

3. OPORD 37-67 (WORCESTER) (U) dated 221400H December 1967 covered the deployment of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division from II Corps to III Corps and an airborne assault to seize the airfield at DU GIA MAP (YU3437). The order was issued, however, it was never executed.

4. OPORD 38-67 (MILEAGE) (U) dated 241800H December 1967 covered the conduct of briefings and security for the visit of the Chief of Staff, US Army to the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division on 27 December 1967. Weather had no significant effect on carrying out this plan.

5. OPORD 1-68 (SAN ANGELO) (U) dated 041200H January 1968 covered the revision of OPORD 37-67. This order was issued, however, it was never executed as additional changes to the tactical employment were issued by COMUSMACV.

6. OPORD 2-68 (U) dated 7 January 1968 covered the deployment of Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry to SONG BE Airfield (YU1407) to provide security against enemy attacks on the airfield. Weather had no significant effect on carrying out this plan.

7. OPORD 3-68 (SAN ANGELO) (U) dated 081200H January 1968 covering the revisions of OPORD 37-67 and OPORD 1-68 and displacing the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division from II Corps to III Corps for Op SAN ANGELO.

F. ORGANIZATION:

See Inclosure 1.

G. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS:

1. During the reporting period 1,795,100 leaflets were disseminated in support of brigade combat operations and 22 hours, 5 minutes of loudspeaker broadcasts were logged. Themes utilized in both the leaflets and loudspeaker missions were:

a. National Safe Conduct program.

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- b. Acquainting population with 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division policies, customs, etc. and urging them to cooperate.
- c. Several versions of CHIEU HOI appeals.
- d. Instruction on how to CHIEU HOI.
- e. Weapons reward.
- f. Appeal to people not to aid VC/NVA and to report all incidents or presence of VC/NVA in their area.

2. Special Operation: One special leaflet and loudspeaker tape were prepared and utilized as the result of the CHIEU HOI of a VC Battalion Executive Officer. Leaflets were prepared with the officer's picture and personnel hand-writing urging other personnel to CHIEU HOI. The officer also consented to make a tape, using the same theme as the leaflet. Loudspeaker broadcasts were conducted in conjunction with the leaflet dissemination.

3. The brigade was supported by the 245th Psychological Company during the month of November and the 8th Psychological Battalion during December and January.

H. CHEMICAL OPERATIONS

1. During the reporting period the 20th Chemical Detachment dropped 12.8 tons of bulk CS-1 (big drops) on enemy fortified defensive positions, base camps, and egress routes. An additional 2.8 tons of bulk CS-1 was utilized to seed 13.4 tons of rice. Also during the reporting period 20th Chemical Detachment personnel flew a total of 23 manpack personnel detector ("People Sniffer") missions totaling 49 hours of mission time.

2. Training: The 20th Chemical Detachment conducted instruction and demonstrations for members of the brigade as follows:

a. During November, 33 personnel of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry were trained in the employment of the portable flame thrower and 42 personnel of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry received the training. All personnel had a retainability of six months within the command.

b. During the brigade's stand down at PHAN RING (IN8583) members of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery witnessed a live fougasse demonstration. The purpose of the demonstration was to make personnel aware of the potential of fougasses when integrated into a defense plan. Seven 55 gallon drums, filled with fougasse, each command detonated, were rigged and exploded during the demonstration. Average effects achieved were 75-80 meters in range, covering an area approximately 25-35 meters wide.

c. Protective mask training conducted by 20th Chemical Detachment personnel during the reporting period for Company A, 326th Engineer Battalion (Airborne), Troop A, 2d Squadron (Airborne), 17th Cavalry, 2d Battalion (Airborne) 327th Infantry, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery. Instruction covered care, maintenance and storage of the M-17 protective mask.

I. INTELLIGENCE

1. A summary of the intelligence situation of each of the brigade's operations during the reporting period is sited below:

a. Operation WHEELER: The initial stages of Operation WHEELER were characterized by small contacts with local force units to include elements of the 72d LP Battalion. The lack of contact in the area and significant intelligence to the west warranted a change in the area of operation. Once the brigade moved

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west, significant contacts were made with elements of the 2d NVA Division which were well trained and armed with modern communist weapons. The enemy base camps and storage areas were seldom found high in the mountains or far from supporting populated areas. Interrogation of local residents indicated extensive enemy control of the hamlets within the area of operation with a complex infrastructure of organizations. There was continual movement of NVA units through populated areas. During Operation WHEELER the enemy travelled generally in platoon or larger size units, moved predominantly during the early hours of the morning and in late afternoon-early evening, using major high speed trails, traveling six to eight kilometers in one night. The enemy initiated numerous daylight and night attacks, invariably supported by heavy fires of 60mm or 82mm mortars. The enemy seemed to have an abundance of mortar ammunition and frequently used 57mm and 75mm recoilless rifles as well as D-40 rocket launchers. Reports indicated that prior to a planned large scale attack, shallow graves were prepared for disposal of the dead during withdrawal. The majority of the enemy large scale attacks occurred in the late afternoon and early evening. The enemy exploited periods of inclement weather by initiating several attacks, confident that the brigade could not employ air strikes or gunships due to poor visibility. It is estimated that approximately one-third of the 2d NVA Division sustained casualties, either killed or wounded. Contact was made with the following units:

- (1) 1st VC Regiment, 40th Battalion
- (2) 1st VC Regiment, 60th Battalion
- (3) 21st NVA Regiment
- (4) 21st VC Regiment, 11th Battalion
- (5) 21st VC Regiment, 22d Battalion
- (6) 21st VC Regiment, 33d Battalion

b. Operation KLANATH FALLS: All stages of Operation KLANATH FALLS were characterized by small contacts with local guerrillas and main force units to include sporadic contact with elements of the 186th NF Battalion and the 482d VC LF Battalion. The lack of contact in the initial area and lack of significant and reliable intelligence during the first ten days in the immediate vicinity of Headquarters Military Region VI (MR-6) warranted a change in orientation. Once the brigade oriented to the northern and western portion of the area of operation, sporadic contacts were made with enemy forces of less than squad size. Throughout the operation the enemy moved in small groups and utilized sniper fire effectively. The enemy formed a definite pattern of moving out of his area of operation. During the early stages of Operation KLANATH FALLS the enemy broke up into two distinct groups: a Political Staff Section and a Military Staff Section. The Political Staff Section moved along the SONG KHA River from the vicinity of 2T2545 northwesterly into the mountainous area. It travelled in groups of 7 to 10 personnel along different routes, regrouping periodically in the base camps in the area. The Military Staff Section moved similarly to the Political Staff, but moving southwesterly along small streams. Eventually this group joined elements of the 482d LF VC Battalion which provided security.

c. Operation SAN ANGELO: Enemy activity in the area of operation has increased since the middle of January. Many of the contacts have occurred with what is believed to be NVA elements in the immediate vicinity of BU ULIM (YT2530). Enemy units in the area appear to be well organized and equipped. The enemy displayed an ability to employ heavy volume of automatic weapons and mortar fires, both 60mm and 82mm. He has demonstrated his ability to jam communication frequencies on a large scale and to engage all firebases. It is believed that the enemy will continue to engage friendly elements in order to delay exploitation to the east and northeast where lucrative targets are believed to exist. At the close of the reporting period the enemy units in contact remain unidentified.

2. The following is a recapitulation of enemy losses per operation for the reporting period:

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a. Personnel

	Op WHEELER	Op ROSE	Op FALLIS	Op SAN ANGELO
VC/NVA KIA (C)	211/49	8/0	143/13	26/17
VC/NVA KIA (P)	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
VC/NVA PW	22/7	0/0	6/2	0/0
Returns	10	0	0	10

b. Weapons

Indiv Wpns	28	8	74	23
Crew Served Wpns	6	0	3	2
Indiv Wpns Cache	0	0	1	0
Crew Served Wpns C	0	0	0	8
Grenades	12	0	20	0

3. Problem Area

Insufficient aviation support for Personnel Detector (People Sniffer) or visual reconnaissance operations.

a. Discussion: Aviation support was not adequate during the reporting period to fulfill the daily requirements of the brigade for Personnel Detector or visual reconnaissance missions. Personnel Detector missions required a minimum of one UH-1D and two UH-1C aircraft which were seldom available due to other operational commitments throughout the area of operation. When the OI-E aircraft allocated to the brigade was down for maintenance and/or repair, no replacement aircraft was available for visual reconnaissance.

b. Solution: During Operation SAN ANGELO, the 101st Airborne Division allocates aircraft for Personnel Detectors and visual reconnaissance missions on a daily basis. This system is working quite satisfactorily.

J. PERSONNEL

1. The quarter, 1 November 1967 through 31 January 1968, saw the completion of the fourth phase of Operation WHEELER, the whole of Operation KIAMATH FALLIS and the inception of Operation SAN ANGELO. The brigade personnel strengths at the beginning and conclusion of each operation are listed below:

a. Beginning of Operation WHEELER

Authorized Augmented	4368
Assigned	4858
Present for Duty	4537

(1) The assigned strength was 111% of the augmented authorized strength.

(2) The present for duty strength was 103% of the augmented authorized strength.

b. Conclusion of Operation WHEELER

Authorized Augmented	5187
Assigned	5534
Present for Duty	5197

(1) The assigned strength was 107% of the augmented authorized strength.

(2) The present for duty strength was 100.2% of the augmented authorized strength.

(3) Of the not present for duty strength at the completion of Operation WHEELER, 13 were intransit, 170 were on TUX/SD status, 140 on leave, 8 in confinement, 1 missing and 5 AWOL.

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c. Beginning of Operation KIAMATH FALLS

Authorized Augmented	5187
Assigned	5627
Present for Duty	5287

(1) The assigned strength was 100% of the augmented authorized strength.

(2) The present for duty strength was 102% of the augmented authorized strength.

d. Conclusion of Operation KIAMATH FALLS

Authorized Augmented	5187
Assigned	5075
Present for Duty	4709

(1) The assigned strength was 98% of the augmented authorized strength.

(2) The present for duty strength was 91% of the augmented authorized strength.

(3) Of the not present for duty strength at the completion of Operation KIAMATH FALLS, 9 were in transit, 140 were on IDY/SD status, 197 on leave, 12 in confinement, 1 missing and 7 AWOL.

e. Beginning of Operation SAN ANGELO

Authorized Augmented	5187
Assigned	5122
Present for Duty	4677

(1) The assigned strength was 99% of the augmented authorized strength.

(2) The present for duty strength was 90% of the augmented authorized strength.

2. The assigned strengths of units assigned to the brigade at the end of the reporting period are shown below:

UNIT	OFF	WO	EM	TOTAL
1st Bn (Abn), 327th Inf	28	1	630	659
2d Bn (Abn), 327th Inf	35	1	633	669
2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf	35	1	695	729
3d Bn (Abn), 506th Inf	35	2	716	753
2d Bn (Abn), 320th Arty	43	3	394	440
Spt Bn (Incl Repl Det)	49	12	781	842
Co A, 326th Engr Bn	6	0	165	171
Trp A, 2d Sq Bn, 17th Cav	5	0	126	131
HHC, 1st Bde	44	2	250	296

3. The assigned strengths of units attached to the brigade at the end of the reporting period are shown below:

UNIT	OFF	WO	EM	TOTAL
101st MF Det	2	0	49	51
501st Sig Det	4	0	106	110
181st MI Det	10	1	20	31
46th APO	1	0	8	9
42d Inf Flt (Sct Dog)	1	0	32	33
45th PI Det	1	0	2	3
22d MIL Hist Det	1	0	1	2
2d Plt 12 Civil Affairs	2	0	3	5
20th Cml Det	1	0	4	5

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4. Casualties, as a result of hostile action, for the period 1 November 1967 through 31 January 1968 were as follows:

	<u>On WHEELER</u>	<u>On RUSE</u>	<u>On KIAMATH FALLS</u>	<u>On SAN ANGELO</u>
KHA	7	0	25	11
WHA	64	9	130	59

5. Personnel Programs:

a. Awards and Decorations: The following awards and decorations were approved during the reporting period:

Distinguished Service Cross	10
Distinguished Flying Cross	4
Silver Star	117
Soldier's Medal	17
Brass Star "V"	119
Brass Star Meritorious	167
Air Medal "V"	15
Air Medal Meritorious	130
ARGCM "V"	108
ARGCM Meritorious	317
Legion of Merit	3
Purple Heart	254
CLJ	674
CMB	70
Parachute Wings	21

b. Personnel Services: Personnel services were conducted in the PHU RANG (LN8583) Base Camp under the auspices of the AG Section. During the reporting period there were 1,004 personnel actions completed to include leaves; congressional inquiries; applications for RA appointments, helicopter training, JCS, Warrant and direct commissions; and special cases. Expeditious handling of personnel actions was guaranteed with daily courier services between PHU RANG and the forward area of operation.

c. Postal Activities: There were 312,093 pounds of mail distribution to the brigade during the reporting period.

d. Red Cross Services: The Red Cross center at PHU RANG had an attendance of 24,912 and the clubmobile unit had an attendance of 12,267 during the reporting period. In addition to a Red Cross representative being available to members of the brigade at the forward base camp, Red Cross workers were present in the forward area during the holiday season, distributing Red Cross "Santa Bags" to the members of the brigade.

e. Morale: The morale and esprit de corps of the 1st Brigade while normally excellent, were enhanced during the holiday season by the efforts of the Chaplain's Section, which provided Vietnamese ceremonies for the troops and special Christmas services.

6. Commanders and Principal Staff

a. Brigade Headquarters

Brigade Commander:	10	Col Salvo H Matheson
		Col John W Collins III
Brigade Deputy Commander:		Col John W Collins III
Brigade Executive Officer:		LTC Ralph Puckett
S1:		LTC Richard H Kaupou
		Maj Carl P Allen
S2:		Maj Edwin P Gesssey
S3:		LTC Elliott P Sydnor Jr
		Maj Otter J Shalikashvili
S4:		LTC Robert M Elton
S5:		Maj Wayne J Prokup
		Maj Patrick Mague

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b. Battalion Commanders:

1st Bn (Abn), 327th Inf	LTC Gerald Morse
2d Bn (Abn), 327th Inf	LTC Elliott P. Snyder Jr
2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf	LTC Robert G. Yerkes
3d Bn (Abn), 506th Inf	LTC Howard H. Danford
2d Bn (Abn), 320th Arty	LTC John P. Geraci
	LTC Andrew S. Bolcar
	LTC James E. London
Spt Bn, 1st Bde	LTC Quinton P. Sunday
	LTC Richard H. Kaper

c. Separate Companies

Co A, 326th Engr Bn	CPT Michael Ward
	1LT Edward P. Kane
Co D, 326th Medical Bn	CPT Robert A. Arbon
Trp A, 2d Sqdn, 17th Cav	CPT James R. Harding
	CPT Raymond C. Hartjen Jr
HHC, 1st Bde	CPT Leroy G. Stevens
	CPT Peter S. Riehart

K. LOGISTICS

1. General: No major changes occurred in the concept of logistical support during the reporting period. Throughout most of the period the brigade continued to obtain the bulk of its supplies through a Forward Support Area (FSA) established by the 1st Logistical Command. Class II and IV items continued to be supplied by PH N R.M.G. Sub Area Command and US Army Support Command, CAM RANH JAY.

2. Organization for Support.

a. Support Battalion: A Forward Support Element (FSE) was provided by Support Battalion. When lines of communication became too long, a forward Supply Point (FSP) was established.

(1) Forward Support Element

(a) Headquarters Detachment provided command and control and was organized into command, operations, movement control and food services elements.

(b) Supply Detachment received, stored and issued all classes of supply and provided a limited rigging capability.

(c) Administrative Detachment provided Adjutant General personnel, postal and finance services.

(d) Maintenance Detachment provided a repair capability for automotive, engineer, ordnance, quartermaster and signal items.

(e) Company D, 326th Medical Battalion (Airborne) provided clearing station facilities including surgical, dental, holding, and emergency treatment section.

(2) Forward Supply Point

Generally the FSP provided a limited forward point of distribution from which the maneuver units could draw their high turn-over items in all classes of supply.

3. Material and Services

a. Supply

(1) Class I:

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(a) 1-24 November 1967 (Operation WHEELER)-Meal, Combat Individual formed the bulk of all Class I consumed. "A" Rations were fed when conditions permitted and "A" ration supplements for "C" rations were issued when readily available. No significant shortages were encountered.

(b) 25-30 November 1967 (Stand-down at PHAN RANG) the ration was modified B type. Thanksgiving Day meal was fed late to allow troops to eat at PHAN RANG due to move from area of operation (Op WHEELER).

(c) 1 December 1967 - 9 January 1968 (Operation MOUNTAIN FALLS) Meal, Combat Individual formed the bulk of all Class I consumed during the operation. "A" rations were issued when available. The primary problem area was the poor response by CAM RANH DRY Support Command to the Brigade Class I demands. As an example, "C" rations which had been requested for seven days were finally brought to DMU LOC by "Combat Essential" airlift.

(d) 10-31 January 1968 (Operation SAN ANGELO) The SONG LE area of operation presents special logistical problems due to air LOC. All subsistence/rations must be airlifted to the brigade forward area. Items such as meal combat individuals and "B" rations, never before in short supply, now have to be checked daily. Back up Class I comes from PHAN RANG. Due to lack of aircraft, "A" rations and perishables were at zero balance for one seven day period.

(2) Class II & IV

(a) 1-24 November 1967 the bulk of class II & IV items used by the brigade was drawn through the 94th Supply and Service Battalion, Americal Support Command. The tactical situation created a demand for bunker material which, at times, exceeded resources. Other items in short supply were small size fatigues, poncho liners and ruck sacks.

(b) 1 December 1967 - 9 January 1968. The bulk of expendable Class II & IV items used by the brigade was drawn through CAM RANH DRY Support Command. Slower moving items were supplied by the brigade's Support Battalion. Fatigues remained a problem area in that usage rate is greater than resupply rate. Other shortages included ruck sacks and, on occasion, batteries. Ruck sacks have not been available since 15 October 1967.

(c) 10-31 January 1968. Support was obtained from FSA, 29th Support Group, 1st Logistical Command, except for clothing, boots, TA 50 and TQ/E items, which were provided by 101st Airborne Division Support Command and the Brigade Support Battalion (-) PHAN RANG. The limiting factor was the lack of available airlift to ship the supplies to the forward area. Barrier materials and lumber were a problem; it took the 1st Logistical Command more than two weeks to build up stock to support the operation. Much of this stock came in after the operation was underway. Penepine has never reached its stockage objective.

(3) Class III

(a) 1-24 November 1967 - The 221st Supply and Service Company provided all types of Class III in sufficient quantities to support logistical and tactical operations.

(b) 1 December 1967 - 9 January 1968 - CAM RANH DRY Support Command generally provided all types of Class III in sufficient quantities to support logistical and tactical operations. However at PHAN THIET, CAM RANH DRY Support Command did not meet its Class III stockage level by the required delivery date in JP-4, OE-30 and packaged POL.

(c) 10-31 January 1968: Support was obtained from the 1st Logistical Command FSA. The apparent lack of responsiveness by 1st Logistical Command to its FSA caused some anxious moments. In JP-4 the balance on hand was allowed to drop to 350 gallons at one point before resupply could be effected.

(4) Class V

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(a) 1-24 November 1967 - The 205th Ammunition Platoon supplied the brigade with all Class V items. There were no significant problems of shortages.

(b) 1 December 1967 - 9 January 1968. The brigade was supplied with all Class V items by CAM BAHN BAY Support Command. There were no significant problems or shortages.

(c) 10-31 January 1968 - Support was obtained from the FSE operating the Class V yard augmented by the 29th Support Group Class V personnel. The problem with airlift again entered problems, however the biggest problem was the 1st Logistical Command's inability to meet all pre-stockage objectives in Class V.

b. Services

(1) Bath and laundry services were provided by 1st Logistical Command. There were no problems encountered during the reporting period.

(2) Graves Registration services were provided by 1st Logistical Command. There were no problems encountered during the reporting period.

(3) Transportation

(a) Air: USAF C-7A, C-123, C-130 and US Army CH-47 aircraft provided airlift support for the reporting period. C-130 aircraft moved the majority of the airlift from TAM KI and CHU LAI to PHAN RANG (termination Op WHEELER); PHAN RANG to PHU THIE and B.O LOC, PHAN THIE to BAO LOC (Op KLANATH FALLS); and BAO LOC to SONG BE, PHAN RANG to SONG BE (Op SAN ANGELO) to include passengers, mail and limited amounts of all classes of supplies. C-7A and C-123 aircraft supplemented the C-130 airlift. CH-47 aircraft were used exclusively to resupply PSP's.

	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>CARGO (SHORT TONS)</u>	<u>PASSENGERS</u>
NOVEMBER	103	936,145	3,562
DECEMBER	288	2,437,175	5,207
JANUARY	124	1,139,868	4,783

(b) Sea: The Military Sea Transportation Service provided Landing Ships, Tank (LST) for movement of brigade from CHU LAI (termination Op WHEELER) to the Brigade Base Camp PHAN RANG. Two LST's were dispatched from PHAN RANG to CHU LAI with cargoes of vehicles to assist the brigade in moving to PHAN RANG. Seven LST's were utilized in moving vehicles and heavy equipment which could not be air transported from the CHU LAI area to PHAN RANG.

(c) Land: During the reporting period, one major convoy was conducted by the elements of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. On 12 December, Company A, 326th Engineer Battalion (Airborne) moved from PHAN RANG to BAO LOC. No problems were encountered enroute.

(4) Maintenance:

(a) General: Company B, Support Battalion, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division continued its mission of providing direct support maintenance, aircraft maintenance and Class IV repair parts to the brigade and attached units. Company B was divided into two elements: a FSE consisting of 2 officers and 31 enlisted, adapted to respond to forward elements of the brigade; and the company minus, remaining at PHAN RANG Base and performing direct support maintenance.

(b) FSE Maintenance Statistics:

<u>MAINTENANCE AREA</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>REPAIRED</u>
Automotive	69	72
Armament	200	92

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<u>MAINTENANCE AREA</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>REPAIRED</u>
Instrument	44	51
Signal	710	712
Engineer	42	43

(c) Company (-) Maintenance Statistics:

<u>MAINTENANCE</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>REPAIRED</u>
Automotive	309	286
Armament	602	565
Instrument	79	79
Signal	626	617
Engineer	118	76

4. Rear Base Camp Operations:

a. Replacement Company:

(1) During the period 1 November 1967 thru 31 January 1968, Replacement Training Company continued its mission of processing, billeting, and passing all personnel moving through the Brigade Base Camp, as well as training all newly arrived replacements.

(2) In November 1967, Replacement Company was given the additional mission of training the newly arrived 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry. This was accomplished during the period 1 thru 7 November 1967.

(3) During January 1968 the company trained, housed and fed 661 101st Airborne Division replacements.

(4) Replacement Company also renovated its mess and troop billeting facilities. The mess hall, which previously could accommodate only 150 personnel was enlarged to accommodate 500 personnel. The supply system was reorganized to efficiently handle both in and out processing and a new supply room was constructed.

(5) Tentage which had housed replacements for the past year was replaced by semi-permanent structures.

(6) Statistics show a total 23 officers and 632 enlisted men (brigade replacements) trained in the Proficiency Training Course. 52 Officers and 122 enlisted men were trained in the Combat Leaders Course for 1st Brigade units. Six officers and 657 enlisted men (division replacements) were trained for the division.

(7) During the reporting period, the unit processed 343 personnel for R&R, 475 personnel for DEROS, 163 for special leave, 27 emergency leave, 1,391 hospital returnees and 503 personnel passing through PHUEN RANG on miscellaneous official business.

b. Installation Coordination and Defense:

(1) General: The brigade's responsibilities for installation coordination were discharged by the Support Battalion through the Installation Coordination Center (ICC). Daily and weekly meetings with representatives of all Free World Military Forces in PHUEN RANG area were conducted. Monthly Friendship Council Meetings were held to insure a continuation of the excellent relations enjoyed between allied forces and the Vietnamese people.

(2) During the reporting period three installation practice alerts were held to insure a constant state of readiness. On 24 January 1968, I Field Force Vietnam, conducted an alert to inspect alert procedures. All discrepancies are being corrected. During the Lunar New Year from 29 January to 1 February 1968, at the direction of the Assistant Deputy Installation Defense Coordinator,

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the entire installation was placed on full alert status (Red).

(3) The ICC has continued to act as the coordinating agency for artillery and mortar fires. The bulk of the local artillery support is supplied by the BOKA, 52d FA. Also during the reporting period ICC coordinated 6 medevacs, 3 gunship missions, 22 spook missions, and 8 airstrikes. The Security Platoon was deployed 3 times during this period.

(4) Presently the ICC, in close coordination with other installation units, is undergoing modifications to insure better communications with all units in the defense of PHU NANG Air Base, and is providing supervision and recommendations for the improvement of installation defenses.

(5) Friendship Council Meetings: During the reporting period, three Friendship Council Meetings were held. Topics for discussion included the THAP CHAM Water system, the construction of the Refugee Road, Civic Action projects and areas off-limits to US Forces.

c. Base Camp Development:

USARV directive dated 12 September 1967 remains in effect. The 1st Brigade Base Camp Development remains negative.

d. Civil Affairs:

(1) General: All Civil Affairs projects of the Support Battalion were oriented toward having the people relate to their national government and to enhance the image of the Republic of Vietnam in the eyes of the people. This is accomplished through encouraging maximum participation by local officials in government activities and coordination with M.C.V Subsector and CORDES. The Support Battalion S5 is concerned with the following six general categories in its daily operations: education, health and sanitation, distribution of commodities, construction, monetary support of educational instruction through voluntary contributions, and community relations.

(2) Education: Each company in the Support Battalion has voluntarily assumed responsibility for sponsoring an elementary school in the THAP CHAM/PHU NANG area.

(3) Health and Sanitation: MEDCAP is the primary vehicle used in support of health and sanitation programs in the area. During the last quarter the following was accomplished:

(a) 1,316 local Vietnamese were treated by US medical personnel.

(b) 23 classes and demonstrations on sanitation and personal hygiene were conducted.

(c) 21 local Vietnamese were evacuated to receive more intensive care.

(4) Distribution of Commodities: The Christmas/TET season expended the commodity distribution program. The three largest areas of distribution were:

(a) Refugee Center

(b) Chieu Hoi Center

(c) Province Chief's Beggar Eradication Program.

In support of these programs the following items have been distributed during the quarter:

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- (a) 7,082 pounds of soap.
- (b) 4,300 pounds of fruit.
- (c) 2,100 pounds of milk.
- (d) 1,600 pounds of miscellaneous canned/boxed food.
- (e) 370 pounds of flour.
- (f) 260 pounds of sugar.
- (g) 1,900 pounds of miscellaneous small items.
- (h) 70, 2"x12"x14" pieces of lumber for M.C.V projects.
- (i) 20 rolls of barbed wire for the DUE S.M agriculture center.

(5) Construction:

- (a) Two culverts 16 feet long
- (b) 50 foot timber trestle bridge, capable of supporting 2 1/2 ton trucks.

(6) Voluntary Monetary Support: 20,500\$DOVN were distributed to 125 VN high school students as part of the Support Battalion's Scholarship Program. The money was raised by voluntary contributions by officers and enlisted men of Support Battalion, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

(7) Community Relations: Ten American movies were shown at the PHUONG Recreation Center to local RVN children.

e. Base Camp Service Company (Company E (Prov) Support Battalion):

(1) General: Company E (Prov) continues to operate under Brigade GO 475 with the mission of base camp security and service.

(2) Security Operations:

(a) Security Platoon continued to provide security for the base camp, tower security and reaction force for the PHUONG Installation.

(b) An element from the Security Platoon provided security for a fresh water well site 3,000 meters SW of the base camp.

(3) Maintenance and Holding Teams: The maintenance and holding teams continued to provide the maintenance, security, and storage facilities for all equipment not required in the brigade forward area. These teams continued to make coordination movements of necessary TOE equipment and supplies to the area of operation.

(4) A significant activity was the incorporation of Brigade HHC into the A-326 Engineer, A-2/17 Cav MEH Team on 20 January 1968. This reorganization has effectively increased the control of assigned and transit personnel and vehicles of Brigade HHC.

f. Administration Section (Company A):

(1) General: During the reporting period this unit continued its mission of administrative support to the brigade in finance, personnel actions, management and records and administration of military justice.

(2) Finance: Finance activities for the reporting period included maintenance of an average of 4852 finance records, in-processing 862 finance

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records, out-processing 1102 finance records, disbursing in MFC-\$2,490,201.93 sold VM \$1,896,596,300 (US \$160,728,30), prepared 8,509 checks (total \$4,548,387.72) and prepared 2361 allotments.

(3) Adjutant General:

(a) Personnel Actions: There were 48 emergency leaves, 130 ordinary and compassionate leaves, 54 special leaves, 63 congressional investigations, 18 non-support of dependents, and 645 letters of indebtedness, processed during the reporting period.

(b) Awards and Decorations: 10 DSC's, 4 DFC's, 117 SS's, 3 Legion of Merit, 17 Soldier's Medal, 15 Air Medal (V), 130 Air Medal, 119 DSM (V), 167 DSM, 108 ARCOM (V), 317 ARCOM, 254 PH were processed and awarded during the period.

(c) Special Services: TRR-1229, Movies - 480, and USO shows -21.

(d) Records Branch: 766 personnel in-processed and 465 personnel out-processed.

(e) Casualty Branch: 496 casualties, 180 processed out of country medical evacuations.

(f) Postal: A total of 9979 money orders were sold (\$695,273.51) and 1503 money orders paid (\$90,467.33), stamp sales totaled \$18,927.50. There were 32,650 pieces of mail and 1102 insured pieces of mail. 73 claims were processed on incoming mail and 21 outgoing mail. The average transit times were 3.5 days for airmail, 14.3 days for MON, 4.9 days for first class mail and 28 days for surface mail.

(g) Staff Judge Advocate: Staff Judge Advocate processed 4 General Court Martials, 5 Summary Court Martials and 16 Special Court Martials during the period.

g. Post Exchange Activities: During the period the Post Exchange conducted a total of \$495,829.57 in retail sales business and recorded \$60,805.08 in concession sales. The Post Exchange received the following amounts of merchandise from the G.M. R&NH B.Y. Depot: November - \$235,428.81, December - \$321,470.80 and January - \$138,635.25.

(1) In anticipation of the return of the Brigade to the base camp on or about 20 November 1967, the exchange prepared for an increase in sales. When the Brigade did return to PH&N R&NH the PX was stocked with high demand, rationed items. PX sales during the stand down were very favorable. Average daily sales were over \$13,000 during the 5 day period.

(2) On 1 December 1967 the PX opened a Snack Bar located in a mobile van along side of the exchange building. Sales included sodas, ice cream and cold sandwiches.

(3) At Christmas the exchange shipped several pallets of beer and soda forward along with a mobile PX with a limited selection of items.

(4) On 10 January 1968 the exchange closed for its quarterly inventory. Upon completion of the inventory the 44AFES, 1st Logistical Command, G.M. R&NH BAY, assumed control of the post exchange.

h. Support Battalion S-4 Activities:

(1) The Support Battalion S4 processed a total of 58 Reports of Survey during the quarter for the approval of the Deputy Installation Commander. The total value was \$167,099.57.

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(2) Water delivery: 3,700,000 gallons of water were delivered to base camp units during the quarter.

(3) Miles driven: 266,253 miles were logged on vehicles of the Support Battalion during the quarter.

(4) Quarterly Reports of Operational Loss: A total of 12 QROL were processed during the quarter for approval of the Deputy Installation Commander. Total value was \$2,788.29.

(5) Vietnamese Personnel Section:

(a) Total payroll for the quarter was 6,064,540.00 Piasters (\$51,394.41)

(b) The local national labor force daily averaged for the quarter was 145 personnel.

1. Air Equipment Support Platoon:

(1) AES personnel supported four airfields and operations at PHAN RANG, DAO LOC, PHAN THIET, and SONG HE during the quarter. A new roof and other improvements were made on the pack shed. A total of 9,050 personnel parachutes and 412 cargo parachutes were packed. AES Platoon also made complete preparations for a Battalion Airborne Assault, to include the rigging of platform loads.

(2) On 31 October 1967, the assigned strength of the platoon was 90 EM and 3 officers. By 31 January 1968, the assigned strength had dropped to 54 EM and 3 officers.

(3) On 27 January 1968 the platoon was attached to the 109th Quartermaster Company (AD) CRB for an indefinite period.

L. CIVIL AFFAIRS

1. General: During the reporting period the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division was involved in three operations (WHEELER, KLMATH FALLS, SAN ANGELO), plus the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry (OPCON to I FFORCE V) participated in a separate operation (ROSE) during the period 11-30 November 1967. Civil Affairs activities were undertaken in QUANG TIN (Op WHEELER); LAM DONG; BINH THUAN (Op KLMATH FALLS); QUAN DO DUC, QUAN PHUOC BINH (Op SAN ANGELO) and TINH NINH THUAN, TINH BINH THUAN (Op ROSE) Provinces.

2. Civil Affairs:

a. During the fourth phase of Operation WHEELER civil affairs activities in direct support of the tactical units were centered in LY TIN and TIEN PHUOC Districts. The activities included the relocation of 764 refugees within the province, the return of 106 persons detained in the brigades area of operation to GVN control at province or district level, and extraction of 19 tons of polished rice from two VC food caches.

b. During operation ROSE, although no mass refugee movement was planned, 250 refugees from the village of SON HAI, (BN8262), a known VC sanctuary and supply base, were relocated to THON MY NGHIA (BN8477). No significant caches of food were found or extracted during the operation.

c. During Operation KLMATH FALLS civil affairs activities included the resettlement of 82 refugees within LAM DONG Province, the return of 19 detainees to province headquarters and the extraction of 64 chickens with the refugees. Due to the tactical situation, difficult terrain or non availability of means of transportation all food caches were destroyed during the operation.

d. Operation SAN ANGELO, commencing 16 January 1968 and continuing at present encompasses, the districts of PHUOC BINH, DO DUC and DUC PHONG. Due to the frequency of enemy contact and the terrain in the area of operations all food caches

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uncovered that far have been destroyed. Twenty-nine refugees have been extracted to the refugee center at SONG BE City as of the close of the reporting period.

3. Civic Actions:

a. Operation MENDLER: The brigade continued its support of civic action/self-help projects in LY TRA, LONG BINH and TICH DONG Hamlets, LY TIN District. MEDCAPS were conducted with regularity at TIEN PHUOC Village, TIEN PHUOC District, in coordination with Special Forces Advisors. One well was renovated and a water tower with a 300 gallon water tank was constructed in LY TRA Hamlet. In addition, shower facilities were installed, a drainage system completed and several items of school furniture were fabricated in the hamlet. Of special note was the four room school completed under the brigade self-help program in October 1967 and dedicated to the 1st Brigade on 17 November 1967. On 7 November 1967 the school was damaged as a result of a terrorist attack on the hamlet. After repairing the building, without the knowledge of the brigade and in complete defiance of the Viet Cong the citizens had emblazoned upon their school a facsimile of the "Screaming Eagle's" shoulder patch above which was printed in Vietnamese "Civil Affairs Delegation from the 101st Airborne Division Presented to the People of LY TRA HAMLET." Twenty MEDCAPS were performed and resulted in the medical treatment of 2,596 Vietnamese civilians from LONG BINH, LY TRA and TICH DONG Hamlets, LY TIN District and TIEN PHUOC Village, TIEN PHUOC District. Of those treated, 731 persons received plague inoculations.

b. Operation KIAM TH FALLS: Due to the brigade's short stay a PHAN THIET no civic action projects other than MEDCAPS were undertaken at that location. When the brigade moved to DAO LOC and due to the existing program in that area, it was decided to direct all efforts toward the Montagnard Hamlet of KUNHIND (ZTO978) and B'KE (ZTO978). Five self-help projects were initiated of which two were completed, the placement of a water tank and tower, and three were not completed (construction of two wells, fabrication of 30 pieces of school furniture) prior to the brigade departing the area of operation. Co A, 326th Engr Bn repaired 8 kilometers of road on Route 337 from DAO LOC to TAN NAI. Twenty MEDCAP teams, including a MEDCAP team from 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry established in the DI LINH District, treated 2,474 Vietnamese civilians throughout the brigade area of operation and the hamlets of KUNHIND and B'KE were dsted with powered insecticide under th plague control program.

c. Operation SAN ANGELO: As of the close of the reporting period civic action activities have centered in the SONG BE Area, PHUOC BINH District. No projects other than MEDCAPS have been initiated, however, coordination for Civic Action programs is underway. Four MEDCAPS have been performed, treating a total of 200 Vietnamese civilians.

d. Support Battalion: Throughout the reporting period the Support Battalion, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division has maintained an effective civic action program in the rear base camp at PHAN RANG. Civic action projects included the construction of 4,800 meters of road, the repair of approximately 4,000 meters of road in two separate areas, the construction of three culverts (two 18"x15" and one 12"x16"), construction of one playground, replacement of three swings on an old playground and construction of a 50 foot trestle bridge under the self-help program. During the period 1,911 Vietnamese civilians were medically treated and 23 classes and demonstrations on sanitation and personnel hygiene were conducted. Local VN nurses and midwives received training by working with the MEDCAPS.

e. Labor: The forward brigade elements employed 6,364 daily hire laborers for a plaster expenditure of 479,140\$00VN.

f. Distribution of Commodities:

Food	-17,350 lbs	Chalk Boards	-	6 ea
Clothing	- 191 lbs	Ink, bottle, 16 oz	-	2 ea
Candy	- 905 lbs	School Kits	-	200 ea
Soap	- 7,546 lbs	Rulers	-	4 ea
Lumber	- 9,961 bd ft	Erasers	-	36 ea

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Wire, barbed	- 3,200 ft	Paper, Writing	- 2 reams
Wire, concertina (50 m ea)	- 23 rolls	Pencils	- 210 ea
Medical Supplies	- 118 lbs	Sharpener, pencil	- 16 ea
Pierced Steel Flanking	- 132 ft	Pen, ball point	- 3 ea
Paint	- 12 gals	Cement	- 110 lbs
Sandbags	- 18,000 ea	Sewing Machine	- 1 ea
1 1/2" pipe	- 10 ft	Polyethylene, 4'x8'	- 80 sheets
3/4" pipe	- 20 ft	Tank, water, 300 gal	- 1 ea
Toys	- 650 ea	Bananas, wooden	- 3 ea
Dental Care Kits	- 112 ea	Gravel	- 7 trk lds
Panoles	- 65 ea	Volley Ball & Net	- 1 ea
Drums, 55 gal	- 24 ea	Fresh Fruit	- 3,200 lbs

g. Recovered Goods Returned to GVN:

Polished Rice - 38,000 pounds

h. Voluntary Contributions:

205,500\$00VN was contributed to the high school scholarship program in PHU N RANG.

5,000\$00 in condolence payments were made in connection with accidents involving two Vietnamese.

1. Efforts Not Otherwise Mentioned Above:

(1) Forty students from the DAO LOC Agricultural College visited the brigade and performed an hour long Christmas program at DAO LOC Base Camp. In attendance were the Brigade Commander, to whom the performers presented a bouquet of flowers; the LAM DONG Province Chief, whom the brigade presented a plaque of appreciation; and the principal of the school, who received a special gift from the brigade. Each performer received a gift.

(2) Fifty-two children from a local orphanage visited the Base Camp at DAO LOC for Christmas dinner. Each child received gift packages.

(3) Forty children from the PHU N RANG refugee Camp attended a Christmas Party sponsored by the Brigade Replacement Detachment. They each received gift packages and toys.

(4) Eleven American movies were shown to local Vietnamese children.

(5) Electrical lighting and 2400 gallons of potable water were provided by the brigade for the semi-final sports event in PHU N RANG for the 1968 VN Olympic Team.

(6) One soccer game was played between US/ARVN Soldiers.

(7) Five Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Vietnamese nationals during this period.

(8) One Brigade Certificate of Appreciation was presented to a QUANG NGAI Province CORDS official.

(9) Five Brigade Plaques of Appreciation were presented to Vietnamese nationals.

(10) The Brigade S-5 was invited to, and did attend, the National Festival Day ceremonies at T.M KY City.

M. MEDICAL

a. During the reporting period unit and brigade level medical support continued to be provided by organic medical elements. The battalion aid stations were employed to provide a limited treatment capability at the battalion tactical command post and a treatment/resupply capability at battalion base camps locations.

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Company D, 326th Medical Battalion (Airborne) routinely operated a 40 bed medical clearing station in the vicinity of the brigade tactical command post.

b. Non organic support was provided by the 55th Medical Group (QUI NHON), 43d Medical Group (NHU TRUNG) and the 68th Medical Group (LONG BINH). Aeromedical evacuation support was provided by the 498th Medical Ambulance Company (QUI NHON), 43th Helicopter Ambulance Detachment (CHU LAI), 245th Helicopter Ambulance Detachment (NHU TRUNG) and the 45th Medical Ambulance Company (LONG BINH).

c. Significant Diseases:

	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
Malaria	69	116	134
Scrub Typhus	0	0	3
Gastroenteritis	46	50	6
Hepatitis	6	14	17
KP Disease	6	2	4
FUO	68	160	59
Respiratory Infection	25	13	9
Skin Problems	30	38	8
Foot Problems	19	3	5

d. Malaria has continued to be the major source of morbidity in this brigade. Although the rate has been less than half that experienced during the peak of last summer, it is still the highest reported in USRV. Tactical effectiveness must continually be weighed against the increased malaria hazard known to exist when conducting night operations in highly endemic areas. In spite of chemoprophylaxis malaria rates will remain high unless effective individual protective measures are employed. Hepatitis has increased during this quarter and has resulted in the necessity of administering gamma globulin to 443 individuals. In many instances history is obtainable which indicates failure to utilize water purification tablets for nonpotable water. Also individuals continue to use local purchase ice and beverages. Supervision is necessary at all echelons to insure compliance with existing regulations regarding water purification and avoidance of local foodstuffs. Gastroenteritis continue to present sporadic difficulties. One episode of bacillary dysentery was attributed to a KP who had prepared food while he had diarrhea. Frequent mess sanitation inspections are being conducted to preclude recurrences from this source.

e. Medical Care and Preventive Medicine

(1) Unit vector control procedures during the quarter were adequate. Continued emphasis is warranted in the role of the unit commander aided by his company field sanitation team in eliminating known causes of morbidity from diseases within the tactical area of operation. Specifically, the area of malaria preventive measures, i.e., use of mosquito nets, taking of chemoprophylactic medications, sleeves down policy at 1800 hours daily, application of insect repellent, as well as the procedures to be followed in disinfecting locally procured water should be closely reviewed.

(2) Aerial spraying for mosquito control was accomplished in the CHU LAI area by the 20th Preventive Medicine Detachment. In the PHAN THIET area, brigade and battalion base camps were sprayed by the PHAN THIET PAE entomologist section. To eliminate a possible plague epidemic within the H.O. LOC area, the 20th PM Det from NHU TRUNG provided a survey and dusting team to dust surrounding villages near the brigade base camp. Personnel protective measures were stressed and no incidence of the disease was manifested in brigade personnel.

(3) Air ambulance evacuation continued to be accomplished in an excellent manner throughout the quarter. One area which should be considered for improvement was the frequent exchange of medevac crews at 1-3 day intervals during Operation KIAM TH FALLS (1 Dec 67 through 10 Jan 68). As a result of these crew changes, confusion was noted in locating tactical units and the exchange of necessary command information was unduly cumbersome. Winch equipped helicopters were available in sufficient quantity to satisfy medical hoist extraction missions.

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(k) Fixed wing Aeromedical Evacuation. During Operation KIAM-TH FALLS a field medical regulator equipped with a single side band radio was made available to the brigade. This resulted in increased effectiveness in the evacuation management of large numbers of patients and proved to be an excellent means of conserving rotary wing aircraft for immediate field extraction and urgent evacuation missions. This capability should be made available on a routine basis since it adds a greater degree of flexibility to the overall medical support that can be provided.

N. SIGNAL

1. The Signal Company (Provisional), 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division had the mission of providing signal service to units in the vicinity of brigade headquarters, installing and operating the brigade command signal systems and providing access trunks to the brigade multichannel system for all subordinated elements.

a. VHF Section: Organic VHF equipment was not used during Operation WHEELER. During Operation KIAM-TH FALLS organic VHF equipment was used to provide multichannel voice communications to the battalion trains area. During Operation SAN ANGELO organic VHF equipment was used to provide multichannel voice communication to adjacent units.

b. FM Radio: FM radio communications were established at CHU L.I for Operation WHEELER, PHUN THLET and DAO LOC for Operation KIAM-TH FALLS and SONG EE for Operation SAN ANGELO. The various nets in operation for the brigade during these operations are listed below:

NET	Op WHEELER	Op KIAM-TH FALLS	Op SAN ANGELO
Bde Command Net #1	X	X	X
Bde Command Net #1A (Secure)	X	X	X
Bde Operations & Intel Net #2	X	X	X
Bde Admin/Log Net #3	X	X	X
Bde Avn Net	X	X	X
General Purpose Net	X	X	X
Bde Arty Fire Spt Control Center	X		
Bde Radio Wire Integration	X		
FM Relay		X*	XX*

* Automatic retransmission relay for nets 1, 1A, 2 and 3 located at AN925225.

** Automatic retransmission relay for nets 1 and 2, manual retransmission relay for nets 1A and 3 located at YU83068.

c. The MRS station was established at the brigade base in all areas of operation to provide phone patch services to the United States.

d. The switchboard/wire section established the brigade command post communications at CHU L.I (Op WHEELER) terminating 96 telephone circuits and installing approximately 45 miles of wire; at PHUN THLET and DAO LOC (Op KIAM-TH FALLS) terminating 96 telephone circuits and installing approximately 30 miles of wire and at SONG EE (Op SAN ANGELO) terminating 82 telephone circuits and installing approximately 45 miles of wire.

e. The communication center terminated two teletype circuits at CHU L.I, one to the Americal Division and one to the brigade rear; at PHUN THLET and DAO LOC it terminated one full duplex teletype circuit to IFFV; and at SONG EE one half duplex circuit was established to Hqs, 101st Abn Div.

f. The AM radio section operated secure radio teletype circuits at CHU L.I and PHUN RUNG (Op WHEELER); PHUN THLET, DAO LOC and PHUN RUNG (Op KIAM-TH FALLS); SONG EE and PHUN RUNG (Op SAN ANGELO) on a 24 hour basis.

g. The maintenance section continued to provide signal maintenance support for the brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company and all attached elements throughout the reporting period.

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2. Supporting Units

a. During Operation WHEELER, VHF carrier support was provided by the 909th Signal Battalion, Americal Division with twelve VHF circuits for the brigade command post. Of these twelve, five were common user and seven were sole user teletype circuits.

b. During Operation KLMATH FALLS, VHF carrier support was provided by the 43d Signal Battalion with twelve circuits, nine of which were common user and three were sole user teletype circuits, and by the 54th Signal Battalion with four VHF circuits, three of which were common user and one was a sole user circuit. Both units provided terminal facilities for communications to higher and adjacent headquarters.

c. During Operation SAN ANGELO, VHF carrier support was provided by an AM/VBC 69 from the 324th Signal Company, 36th Signal Battalion with 12 VHF circuits, eight of which were common user and four were sole user circuits to high-or headquarters. Additionally, the 5th Platoon, Company B, 501st Signal Battalion provided an AM secure radio teletype circuit to division headquarters.

0. ARTILLERY

1. During Operations WHEELER, ROSE, KLMATH FALLS and SAN ANGELO the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery supported the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division by collocating each of its organic firing batteries with each organic maneuver battalion tactical command post. In the fourth phase of Operation WHEELER the battalion was supported by a search light section (two lights) from B Battery, 29th Artillery which was collocated with the tactical command post 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery from 7 to 24 November 1967, and by C Battery, 3d Battalion (155T), 16th Artillery which continued its mission of reinforcing the fires of the battalion. During Operation KLMATH FALLS, C Battery, 6th Battery (155T), 16th Artillery was assigned the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 2d Battalion (Airborne) 320th Artillery while A Battery, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 21st Artillery was placed under the operational control of the battalion and provided support for the 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 7th Cavalry and A Battery, 4th Battalion, 40th Artillery (AW) (SP) provided support for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division during regular convoy movement from PHAN THIEP (AN8309) to PHUM RANG (TN8583) to BAO LOC (ZT0978). In the initial stages of SAN ANGELO A Battery, 2d Battalion (155T), 11th Artillery was assigned the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery, A Battery, 2d Battalion (105), 13th Artillery provided direct support to the 2d Squadron (Airborne), 17th Cavalry and B Battery, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (8 inch - 175 composite) was in general support reinforcing the fires of the Division Artillery.

2. Outside of the normal refresher training conducted continually throughout the 2d Battalion (Airborne) 320th Artillery each firing battery conducted live fire training with the XM546 Anti-Personnel "Beehive" round. The training utilized the oldest rounds in the battery and provided an orientation for the infantry battalions' command post personnel as well as for the firing battery personnel.

3. During Operation KLMATH FALLS and SAN ANGELO the battalion encountered the following problem: Additional stress on howitzers.

a. Discussion: Due to the large areas of operation, firing batteries were widely dispersed with little or no overlapping fires for mutual support. This situation resulted in the increased use of charge 7 for fire missions, which reduced tube life, created maintenance problems with the recoil system, and, during Operation SAN ANGELO, caused the cracking of three base plates.

b. Solution: The problem was alleviated in certain instances by splitting battery operations and establishing mini-fire bases. Organic maintenance elements repaired damaged tubes and an increased preventative maintenance check system on all howitzers was instituted.

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P. ENGINEER

1. Company 4, 326th Engineer Battalion (Airborne), continued to place one combat engineer platoon in direct support of the organic maneuver battalions and the remainder of the company in general support of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. The platoon in support of a maneuver battalion placed one landing zone clearing and demolition team with each rifle company and kept an emergency team at the battalion tactical command post. Normal missions included demolition of tunnels and bunkers, mine clearing, helicopter landing zone construction, explosive ordnance disposal and bunker construction. The company (-) performed the missions of road and drainage construction, minor structure construction, civic action construction, mine clearing, explosive ordnance disposal, helicopter revetment construction, area clearing for unit locations and water supply. The company amassed the following statistics, by operation, during the reporting period.

a. Repair of 8 km of road on Route 337 from BKO LOC (ZT0973) to T.N. LAI (ZT1007) during Operation KLM.M.TH FALLS.

b. TYPE MISSION	*Op WHEELER	Op KLM.M.TH FALLS	Op SAN ANGELO
Helicopter landing zone cleared	57	57	19
Enemy bunkers destroyed	53	0	0
Bunker construction	26	9	7
Tunnels and tunnel complex destroyed	17	0	0
Explosive ordnance demolition			
750 # bomb	0	5	0
500 # bomb	10	0	0
250 # bomb	12	1	0
Butterfly bomb M83	23	0	0
175mm	15	0	0
105mm	16	5	8
82mm	72	11	0
4.2 inch	152	3	13
81mm	1305	115	317
75mm	10	0	0
60mm	192	15	16
57mm	14	0	0
M-79 rds	46	29	0
BLU-3	1	0	0
LAW	22	3	100
M18A1 mines	67	34	0
M16 mine	42	0	0
M26 hand grenade	0	19	85
ChiCom Shape Charge	0	1	0
ChiCom mine	1	0	0
ChiCom hand grenade	173	19	0
M-40 rocket	0	12	0

* Includes entire Op WHEELER as figures were not available at close of last reporting period.

2. Training: The enemy use of captured M-16 anti-personnel mines necessitated a mine study and training program to lessen casualties and eliminate misconceptions.

Q. TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY

The tactical air control party from the 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron (DA K.M.G) provided tactical air support for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division during the entire reporting period. The support rendered the brigade is listed below per operation:

a. Operation WHEELER*: US Air Force and Marine pilots flew 426 tactical missions totaling 878 sorties. Of those sorties, 453 were immediate requests which were processed through the Air Force I Corps Direct Air Support Center (IDASC)

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(DA NANG) with an average reaction time of twenty minutes. In addition, 201 Combat Skyspot sorties, 41 flareship (AC-47) sorties and 188 transport sorties were flown. Forward Air Controllers flew 341 sorties in forward air control, artillery adjustment and visual reconnaissance missions. A total of 1,163,575 tons of ordnance was expended consisting of 875,450 tons of general purpose bombs, 290,125 tons of napalm, 2600 flares, 276,950 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, 237,300 rounds of 20mm ammunition, 28 CHU's and 1513 rockets.

* Includes entire Op WHEELER as figures were not available at close of last reporting period.

b. Operation KIAM TH FALLS: US Air Force pilots flew 118 tactical fighter missions totaling 236 sorties. Of these 94 were immediate requests which were processed through Direct Air Support Center ALPHA (NHA TRANG) with an average reaction time of thirty minutes. In addition, 23 Skyspots sorties, 9 flareship (AC-47) sorties and 288 transport sorties were flown. Forward Air Controllers flew 172 sorties in forward air control, artillery adjustment and visual reconnaissance missions. A total of 352.25 tons of ordnance was expended consisting of 330.75 tons of general purpose bombs, 19 tons of napalm, 323 flares, 97,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, 66,000 rounds of 20mm ammunition and 76 rockets.

c. Operation SAN ANGELO: US Air Force pilots flew 68 tactical fighter missions totaling 123 sorties. Of these 21 were immediate requests which were processed through 3d Direct Air Support Center (LONG BINH). In addition, 7 Skyspot sorties and 208 transport sorties were flown. Forward Air Controllers flew 84 sorties in forward air control, artillery adjustment and visual reconnaissance missions. A total of 178.6 tons of ordnance was expended consisting of 151.9 tons of general purpose bombs, 26.5 tons of napalm, 38,100 rounds of 20mm ammunition and 114 rockets.

R. ARMY AVIATION

1. General Concept of Operations: Aviation assets under operational control of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division were placed in direct support of the maneuver elements. With this aerial fire support and lift capability the ground commander maintained the means of rapid deployment, reinforcement, close air support, resupply, reconnaissance and emergency medical evacuation.

2. The following aviation support was provided:

a. Operation WHEELER: The 14th Combat Aviation Battalion provided the brigade with aircraft for troop lift, combat support and resupply missions. The 176th Assault Helicopter Company was employed in a direct support role and provided helicopters for gunship, troop lift, and resupply missions. The 161st Assault Helicopter Company, in general support of the brigade, flew gunship support, troop lift and resupply missions. The 178th Aviation Company (Medium), in general support of the brigade, provided CH-47 aircraft on mission support basis for troop lift, heavy resupply and displacement of artillery units.

b. Operation ROSE: The 117th Assault Helicopter Company in direct support of the 3d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry provided helicopters for gunship support, troop lift and resupply missions.

c. Operation KIAM TH FALLS: The 10th Combat Aviation Battalion provided the brigade with aircraft for troop lift, combat support and resupply missions. The 17th, 92d, 117th and 240th Assault Helicopter Companies were employed in a direct support role and provided helicopters for gunship support, troop lift and resupply missions. The 243d Aviation Company (Medium) in general support of the brigade, provided CH-47 aircraft on mission support basis for troop lift, heavy resupply and displacement of artillery units.

d. Operation SAN ANGELO: The 101st Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division supported the brigade on a daily mission request basis. Helicopters for gunship support, troop lift and resupply missions were utilized from companies A and B, 101st Aviation Battalion. II FFARCE V provided CH-47 lift capability on a daily mission basis.

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3. Problem Areas

a. Item: Aircraft Maintenance

(1) Discussion: Initial dispatch of aircraft provided for a release time of one and a half hours prior to darkness in order for maintenance to be performed during daylight hours. Ground unit commanders frequently requested extension of release time. This reduced aircraft availability the following day.

(2) Solution: Command emphasis was placed on the meeting of release time. Aircraft which continued to be utilized past the release time were grounded for maintenance the following day.

b. Item: Landing Zone Selection and Maintenance

(1) Discussion: Poor selection of landing zones and failure to re-appraise constantly current requirements and locations of helipads in the tactical areas result in both injury to personnel on the ground and destruction of aircraft due to the lack of understanding of requirements of aircraft.

(2) Solution: Conducting a joint reconnaissance of tentative landing zones by both the ground commander and the air mission commander based on the ground tactical plan insures a well coordinated combat assault. This system not only allows for invaluable assistance to the ground commander but it also allows the air mission commander to issue his orders and properly brief the aviation elements.

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SECTION II (G)

Part I: Observations (Lessons Learned)

1. Item: Enemy Pattern of Observation

a. Observation: When operating in a new area of operation, emphasis should be placed, initially, on determining the pattern of activity of the enemy forces in the area. For instance, if the initial contacts with the enemy are made on the military crest of hills and the enemy is in fortified positions, it can be assumed that the enemy will be in similar positions on other hills in the area. Once this information is obtained or information indicates otherwise, it can be assumed that the pattern is universal in the area and methods of operations can be modified accordingly.

b. Discussion: The methods of operation, location of base camps and caches, and positioning and use of defensive positions vary among the enemy in different areas of operation. Knowing this pattern in a particular area of operation is vital to the successful conduct of combat operations.

2. Item: Securing Landing Zones

a. Observation: Commanders must insure that both the landing zone and approach are secure to be reasonably sure that enemy forces are not along the approach into the landing zone. If it is impossible to secure the approach or the enemy situation along the approach is not known, this information must be reported so that gunships can accompany the resupply or medical evacuation helicopter.

b. Discussion: During or after an enemy contact when emergency resupply or medical evacuation is required, it is not sufficient to secure only the actual location where the helicopter is to land.

3. Item: Defense Against Enemy Mortars

a. Observation: Resupply of units was conducted as rapidly as possible and units then displaced to a new location. This rapid shift, plus minimizing the flights in and out of a unit location, decreased the enemy's ability to pinpoint a unit location and reduced the effectiveness of his mortar attacks.

b. Discussion: When resupply of units is required by helicopter, unit locations are compromised by the flights of resupply aircraft into the area. The enemy in the area of operation frequently employed mortars against the unit at the resupply location.

4. Item: Field Artillery Digital Automatic Computer (FADAC)

a. Observations: By maintaining two manual charts, one primary and one check, in each fire direction center (FDC) and using the FADAC every other day required the FDC to use the manual method, thus maintaining manual proficiency and allowing maintenance time for the computer.

b. Discussion: With the inception and successful utilization of the FADAC, a tendency existed to rely completely on the computer with consequent adverse effects on the firing battery's manual capability.

Part II Recommendations

1. Visual tracking: The biggest problem in fighting the enemy in Vietnam is finding him in order to fight him. A definite need, therefore, exists at the rifle platoon level for personnel familiar with and trained in the act of visually tracking the enemy. When contact is made with the enemy, often several of the enemy are wounded and manage to escape. Blood trails are followed because they are relatively easy to locate, but once the enemy has time to bandage himself, the average rifleman loses the trail. A by-product of knowing the principles of tracking is the ability to detect quickly things that are out of place or unusual such as enemy signs used to designate booby traps, mines, punji pits or other

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Observations (Lessons Learned)

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dangers ahead. It is, therefore, recommended that the art of visual tracking be taught to rifleman prior to their arrival in Vietnam.

2. "Daisy Cutters": The "Daisy Cutter" has proven to be an extremely effective bomb for landing zone preparation in advance of assaulting troops and for land zone construction. It is recommended that this bomb be standard issue in Vietnam to insure adequate supply to fulfill its required use.

John W. Collins III
 JOHN W COLLINS III
 COL, Infantry
 Commanding

Incl 1-Brigade Organization

Notes: Operation WHEELER published separately as CAAR 67X161

Distribution:

- 2-Test CoFS for Force Development, DB, Washington DS 20310 (thru channels)
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- 1-S3 Reference File

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31
AVFBC-EE-H (12 Feb 68) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending
31 January 1968. (RCS CSFOR-65) (UIC WA31T0) (U)

DA, HQ II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 23 MAR 1968

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC(DST), APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-OT, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

1. Subject report is forwarded.
2. This command has reviewed the attached ORLL of the 1st Brigade,
101st Airborne Division and concurs with the report with the following
exceptions:
 - a. Page 3, para 4c. Operation San Angelo was conducted in the
Phuoc Long Province.
 - b. Page 8, para 3a. Helicopters for Personnel Detector and
visual reconnaissance missions are normally furnished by the organic
aviation battalion. The 101st Airborne Division was allocated four O-1
aircraft daily. The O-1 companies commit a specified number of aircraft
daily in order to meet the ground unit requirements. Aircraft that are
grounded for maintenance are replaced. The problem results from internal
scheduling arrangements and not from a lack of aviation support.
 - c. Page 25, para E, 2d. Operation San Angelo: Helicopters for
gunship support, troop lift and resupply missions were allocated from
12th Combat Aviation Group units during this operation.
 - d. Page 26, para 3a. In the case of II FFORCEV helicopter units,
1800 hours has been established as normal release time. This is approximately
one hour prior to darkness. If the tactical situation dictates, a one hour
extension can be granted normally without delaying the reporting time for the
helicopter company the following day. It is not a requirement that aircraft
be grounded the day following an extension of the unit beyond the normal
release time. Maintenance is performed at night to provide the required
number of aircraft for the next day. In cases of extreme battle damage, a
company can be allowed to perform maintenance the following day or removed
from the combat assault role until damage has been repaired.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

E M M McGrath

E. M. McGRATH
CPT, AGC
Asst AC

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AVHGC-DST (12 Feb 68) 2d Ind

CPT Arnold/twl/LBN 4485

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968
(RCS CSFOR-65)(U)

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 29 MAR 1968

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 January 1968 from Headquarters, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (WAB4AA) as indorsed.
2. (C) Pertinent comment follows: Reference item concerning visual tracking, page 27, paragraph 1. Visual tracker training for each rifleman is not feasible. In October 1967, DA was requested to provide 1,200 visual tracker trained personnel for assignment to small combat units. The basis of assignment recommended was one individual per LRP, reconnaissance platoon, rifle platoon, and armored cavalry platoon. Status of DA action is unknown at this time.
3. (U) A copy of this indorsement will be furnished to the reporting unit through channels.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. S. Nakatsukasa
C. S. NAKATSUKASA
Captain, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Copies furnished:
HQ 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div
HQ II FFORCEV

GROUP 4

downgraded at 3 year intervals
declassified after 12 years
DIR 5200.10 Applies

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GPCP-DT (12 Feb 68) 31 Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division
for Period Ending 31 Jan 68 (RCS C&FOR-65) (UIC: WAB4AA)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 12 APR 1968

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
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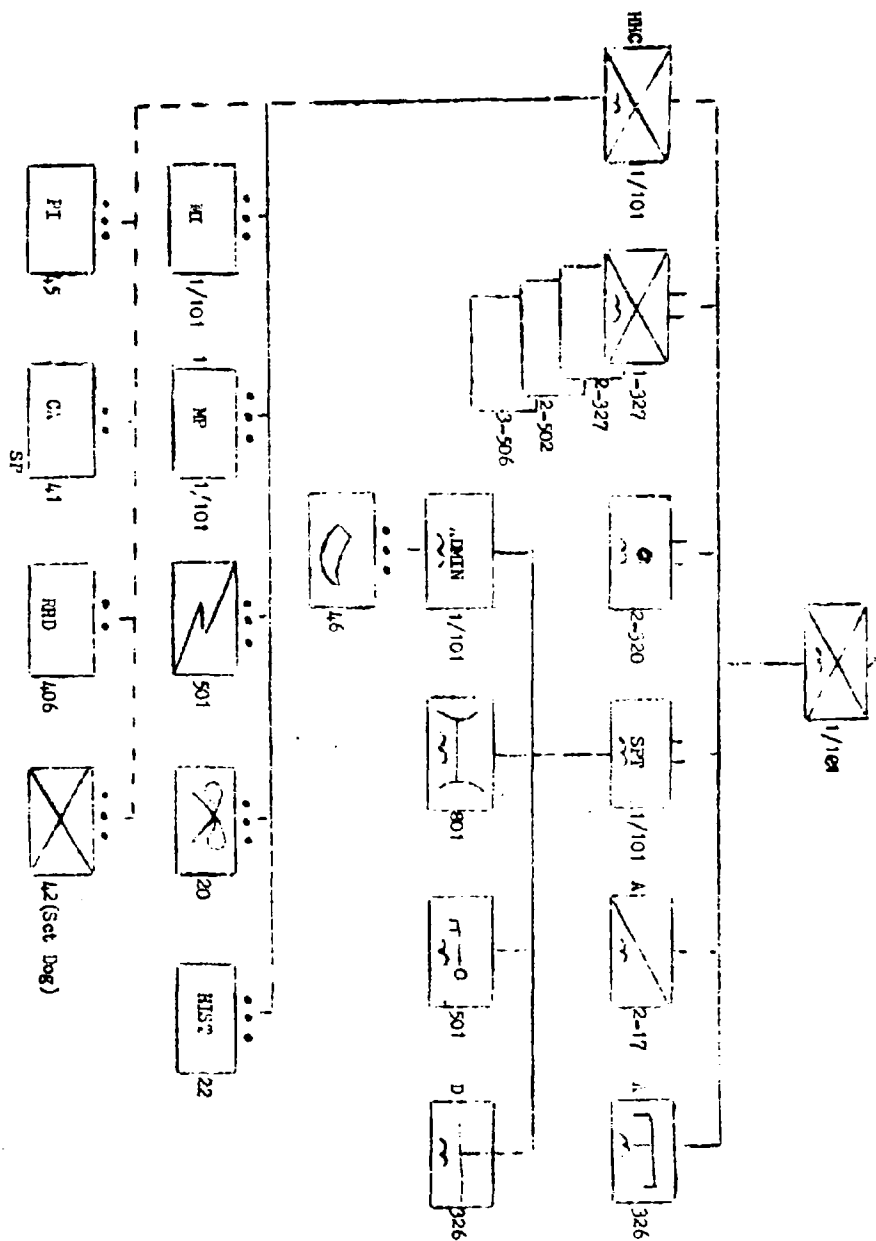
FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



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